

1345.4 - SA Stats, Mar 2011

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Summary

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Feature Articles

NEW THIS MONTH -

This month's SA Stats presents two feature articles; Patterns in South Australian Retail Turnover and Emotional Well-being in South Australia.



Demography

Includes: **Estimated resident population, Components of population change**

South Australia's estimated resident population (ERP) increased by approximately 20,000 for the year ended 30 June 2010.



Labour Force

Includes: **Contents, Employed persons, Unemployment, Participation rate**

SA's total number of employed falls for the third consecutive month to 813,400 persons.



Incomes

Includes: **Average weekly earnings**

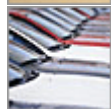
Female full-time earnings in SA increases 5.3% in the 12 months to November 2010 compared to 1.6% for males.



State Accounts

Includes: **State accounts, Household final consumption expenditure (HFCE)**

SA's State Final Demand increased 0.6% between the September and December quarters 2010.



Consumption

Includes: **Retail trade, New motor vehicle sales**

SA's retail turnover estimate up 2.4% in January 2011; 0.4% above the sales recorded in January of 2010.



Investment

Includes: **Private new capital expenditure, Mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure**

SA's chain volume estimate of private new capital expenditure rose 7.6% in December quarter 2010.



Construction

Includes: **Building approvals, Construction work done**

Dwelling unit approvals in SA fall 6.5% in January 2011.



Price Indexes

Includes: **Contents, Consumer price index, Wage price index, House price index**

SA Wage Price Index increases 1.1% in December quarter 2010; the equal largest of all states and territories.



Housing Finance

Includes: **Housing finance commitments**

SA's average home loan commitment for non-first home buyers marginally above that for first home buyers.



International Merchandise Trade

Includes: **Exports and Imports**

Wheat remains SA's number one export commodity in January 2011.



Water

Includes: **Rainfall, Reservoir levels**

South Australia's summer 2010-11 was the third wettest on record.

In this issue

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	Release Date
April 2011	28 April 2011
May 2011	31 May 2011
June 2011	28 June 2011

WHAT'S NEW THIS MONTH

This month's **SA Stats** presents two articles, Patterns in South Australian Retail Turnover and Emotional Well-being in South Australia.

The first article presents an overview of South Australian retail turnover using data from Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0). The article presents a summary of recent trends in retail turnover in South Australia with special reference to time-series analysis and the difference between the original, seasonally adjusted and trend estimates. Unless otherwise stated, the Retail Sector in this article is defined by Division G of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (cat. no. 1292.0). The main findings of the article include:

- The trend of retail spending in South Australia has declined since May 2010.
- The trend estimate of monthly retail turnover for South Australia decreased by 0.2% in January 2011, while the national estimate was flat.
- In original data series terms, there is a clear seasonal variation in South Australian retail turnover.

The second article focuses on the emotional aspects of well-being for South Australians, as measured in the ABS system of social statistics. It explores three indicators as a proxy measure of well-being: levels of psychological distress; mental illness; and personal stressors. The article shows:

- One in eight South Australians (and Australians) reported having a high or very high degree of psychological distress in 2007-08.
- Nearly six out of ten South Australians were adversely impacted by at least one potentially stressful situation or event over 2005-06.
- In the decade to 2009, there has been consistently higher per capita spending (rate per total population) on mental-health related medications in South Australia - under the Pharmaceutical and Repatriation Benefits Schemes - than in any other jurisdiction or nationally.

Explanatory Notes are not included in SA Stats in the form found in other ABS publications. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications referenced in the feature articles.

Topics which have been updated with new data in this month's issue of **SA Stats** include: Construction; Consumption; Housing Finance; Incomes; International Merchandise Trade; Investment; Labour Force; Price Indexes; State Accounts; and Water.

NOTE: CHANGE TO ABS PRODUCT

The final release of the current SA Stats product will be 28 June, 2011. Currently the ABS is developing a new national output - State and Territory Statistical Indicators (cat. no. 1367.0), anticipated release in July 2011. This product will provide an overview of the population, economy and environment for each of the Australian states and territories.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Loucas Harous on Adelaide (08) 8237 7585, or email sa.statistics@abs.gov.au.

Feature Articles



FEATURE ARTICLES

2011

- Mar 2011 Patterns in South Australian Retail Turnover
- Emotional Well-being in South Australia
- Feb 2011 Young People, Sports and Physical Recreation in South Australia
- Jan 2011 Household Water Consumption and Conservation Actions

2010

- Dec 2010 Women in South Australia's workforce
- Nov 2010 National Regional Profile: Regional data made easy!
- Oct 2010 Making better use of Public Sector information
- Sep 2010 Where have all the male teachers gone?
- Aug 2010 Beefing up our economy: Meat production in South Australia
- Jul 2010 Children's Use of the Internet and Mobile Phones in South Australia
- Jun 2010 International Students and the VET sector in South Australia
- May 2010 Interstate Departures from South Australia
- Apr 2010 Engineering Construction in South Australia
- Mar 2010 Burial and cremation trends in South Australia
- Feb 2010 The new Australian Statistical Geography Standard
- Jan 2010 Houses in South Australia: The cost of building a dream

2009

- Dec 2009 International Students in South Australia
- Nov 2009 Perceptions of Crime and Safety in South Australia
- Oct 2009 Who's Not in the Labour Force?
- Sep 2009 One parent families with dependent children in South Australia
- Aug 2009 Heating and Cooling
- Jul 2009 What are South Australians Studying?

Jun 2009	Water Efficiency in South Australia's Vineyards
May 2009	Journey to Work in the City of Adelaide
Apr 2009	Housing Finance - First Home Buyers and Other Borrowers
Feb 2009	Recent Increases in South Australia's Fertility
Jan 2009	South Australian Household Final Consumption Expenditure
2008	
Dec 2008	Energy Consumption in South Australia
Nov 2008	Adelaide's Population Turnover
Oct 2008	Contributors to Adelaide's Price Rises
Sep 2008	<u>Adelaide's Suburbs of Advantage and Disadvantage</u>
Aug 2008	South Australia's Agriculture Industry
July 2008	<u>New Dwelling Approvals in South Australia</u>
May 2008	<u>Literacy of South Australians</u>
April 2008	<u>South Australia's Migrant Population</u>
	<u>South Australia's Ageing Population and the Labour Force</u>
Feb 2008	<u>South Australia's Mining Industry</u>
	<u>Water Supply in South Australia</u>
Jan 2008	<u>Labour Force Underutilisation and the Underemployed in South Australia</u>
	<u>Water Use in Agriculture - A South Australian Perspective</u>
2007	
Nov 2007	<u>Sports Attendance in South Australia</u>
	<u>Recorded Crime - Victims, South Australia, 2006</u>
Oct 2007	<u>Attendance at Cultural Venues and Events by South Australians</u>
Aug 2007	<u>Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities - South Australia, 2006</u>
Jul 2007	<u>South Australia's big picture: Census highlights the changes in South Australian society</u>
	<u>Participation in Sports and Physical Recreation Activities - South Australia</u>
May 2007	<u>Health of South Australians - Body Mass</u>
	<u>Household Use of the Internet in South Australia</u>
Apr 2007	<u>Employment in the Retail Trade Industry in South Australia</u>
	<u>River Murray - South Australia</u>
Mar 2007	<u>Household Waste Management in South Australia</u>
Feb 2007	<u>Births - South Australia</u>
Jan 2007	<u>Gross Domestic Product and Gross State Product</u>
2006	
Dec 2006	<u>Rainfall in South Australia, South Australian Reservoirs, Water Consumption</u>
Nov 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health related actions</u>
Oct 2006	<u>National Regional Profile - New Release, New Features</u>
Sep 2006	<u>Fuel Production and Consumption, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use Change and Forestry</u>
Aug 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health Risk Behaviours</u>
	<u>The South Australian Grape Industry</u>
Jul 2006	<u>Use of IT By Australian Businesses</u>
	<u>Household use of the Internet in South Australia</u>
May 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health Status</u>
Apr 2006	<u>International Trade in Services</u>
	<u>International Students in South Australia</u>
Feb 2006	<u>Labour Force and Other Characteristics of Migrants in South Australia</u>
Jan 2006	<u>Survey of work in selected Culture & Leisure Activities</u>
2005	
Nov 2005	<u>Household Income in South Australia</u>
	<u>Household Expenditure in South Australia</u>

Oct 2005	<u>SA Business and Innovation</u> <u>Recent History of Population change in South Australia, 1993-94 to 2003-04</u>
Aug 2005	<u>Average Weekly Earnings</u> <u>Transition from School</u>

Demography



DEMOGRAPHY

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

The estimated resident population (ERP) for South Australia was 1,644,600 at 30 June 2010, an increase of about 20,000 persons (1.2%) since 30 June 2009. Nationally, the ERP was 22,342,400 at 30 June 2010, an increase of about 377,100 persons (1.7%) since 30 June 2009.

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, Preliminary data

	Population at end June quarter 2010 '000	Change over previous year '000	Change over previous year %
New South Wales	7 238.8	105.4	1.5
Victoria	5 547.5	99.3	1.8
Queensland	4 516.4	89.1	2.0
South Australia	1 644.6	20.1	1.2
Western Australia	2 296.4	49.1	2.2
Tasmania	507.6	4.4	0.9
Northern Territory	229.7	3.5	1.5
Australian Capital Territory	358.9	6.3	1.8
Australia(a)	22 342.4	377.1	1.7

(a) Includes Other Territories comprising Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.
Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

In 2008-09, the South Australian Statistical Division (SD) with the largest percentage increase in ERP was Outer Adelaide (1.9%) followed by Yorke and Lower North (1.4%).

Estimated Resident Population(a), By Statistical Division - South Australia

	2008		2009	
	Population at 30 June '000	Change over previous year %	Population at 30 June '000	Change over previous year %
Adelaide	1 172.6	1.2	1 187.5	1.3
Outer Adelaide	134.1	2.0	136.6	1.9
Yorke and Lower North	46.4	1.1	47.1	1.4
Murray Lands	70.2	0.5	70.4	0.4
South East	65.4	0.8	66.0	0.8
Eyre	35.2	0.6	35.6	1.0

Northern	80.1	0.7	80.5	0.5
South Australia	1 604.0	1.1	1 623.6	1.2

(a) Estimates for 2008 are revised to align with new 2008 state and territory totals and estimates for 2009 are preliminary.

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia 2008-09 (cat. no. 3218.0)

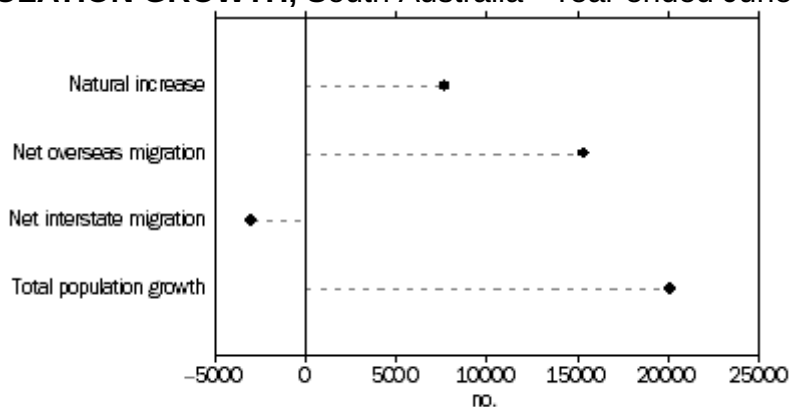
[Map of South Australia's Statistical Divisions](#) (PDF 3.083MB)

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

For the year ended 30 June 2010, South Australia recorded a natural increase (i.e. the net of births and deaths) of 7,663 persons. Net overseas migration provided a gain of 15,371 persons in the same period while net interstate migration realised a loss of 2,964 persons.

For the year ended 30 June 2010, Australia recorded a natural increase in population of 161,535 persons; net overseas migration resulted in a gain of 215,576 people.

POPULATION GROWTH, South Australia - Year ended June 2010



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0)

Labour Force



LABOUR FORCE

CONTENTS

[Employed persons](#)

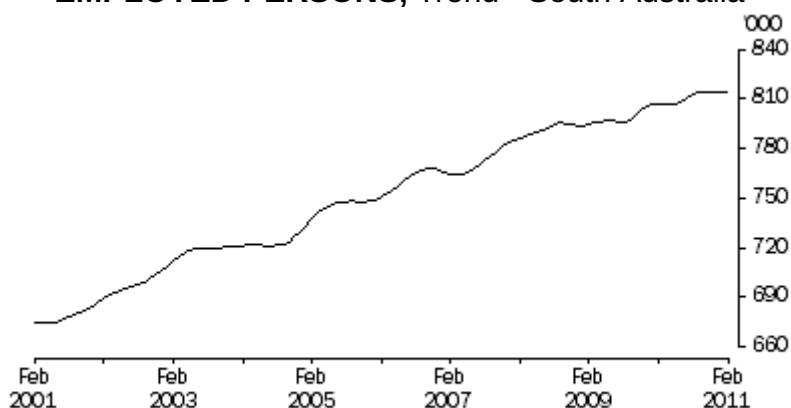
[Unemployment](#)

[Participation rate](#)

EMPLOYED PERSONS

Following a period of relative stability, the total number of persons employed in South Australia (in trend terms) has fallen over the last three months. The February 2011 estimate of 813,400 persons employed is down from 813,700 persons employed in January, but 0.8% above the estimate recorded in February 2010 (807,000). Nationally, a total of 11,433,700 persons were employed in February 2011; an increase of 2.9% over the corresponding month of the previous year.

EMPLOYED PERSONS, Trend - South Australia



Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

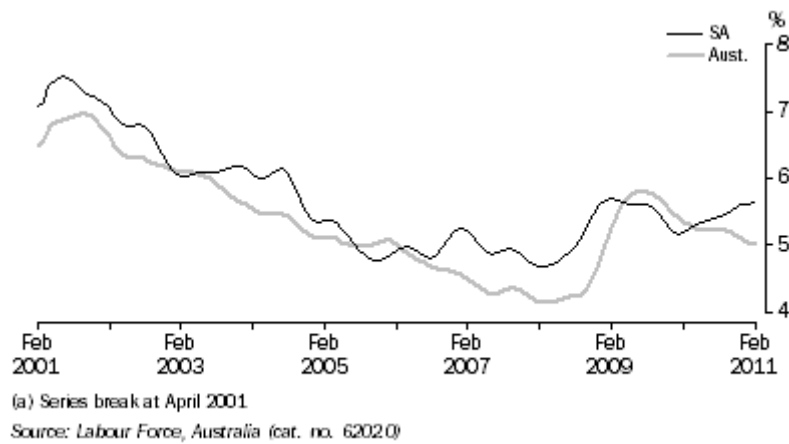
The number of males employed full-time in South Australia fell for the third consecutive month, down marginally from 363,100 in January 2011 to 363,000 (in trend terms) in February 2011. Similarly, the number of females employed full-time fell for the fourth consecutive month, down to 187,600. The February 2011 estimate of the number of females employed full-time is 2.0% higher than the corresponding month of the previous year, while for males the February estimate is 1.9% higher over the same period.

Looking at the composition of all male employees, those working full-time accounted for 83.0% of the male workforce in February 2011, up from 81.2% in February 2010. In comparison, full-time female employees accounted for 49.9% of the female workforce in both February 2011 and 2010.

UNEMPLOYMENT

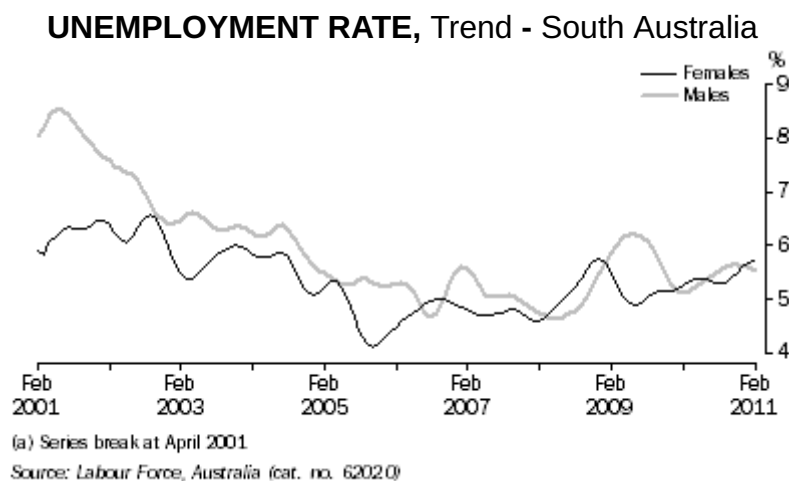
South Australia's trend unemployment rate held steady in February 2011 at 5.6%. The estimate remains above the national unemployment rate for the tenth consecutive month. The Australian unemployment rate fell to 5.0% in February 2011.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Trend



From a low of 5.1% in early 2010, the trend unemployment rate for South Australian males has generally risen, but in February 2011 the estimate fell marginally to 5.5%. Over the same period the trend unemployment rate for South Australian females has fluctuated, but remained steady at 5.7% in February 2011. This latest estimate has the female unemployment rate above the male rate for the second consecutive month.

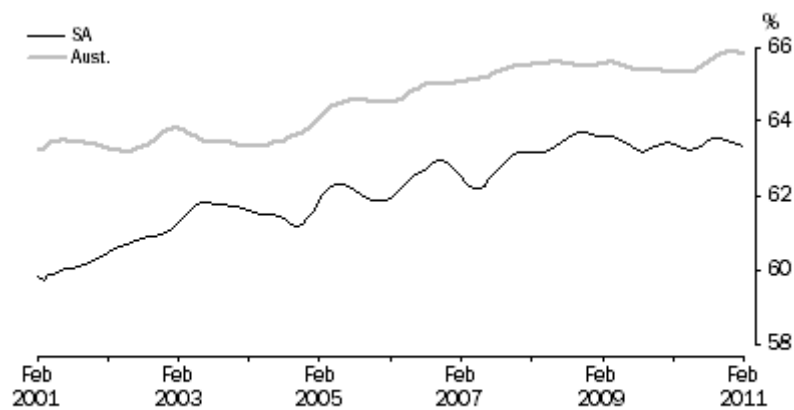
Nationally, the trend unemployment rate for males remained steady at 4.8%, while the female unemployment rate fell slightly to 5.3%.



PARTICIPATION RATE

The trend estimate of the participation rate for South Australia has shown frequent fluctuations, but little overall gains over recent times. In February 2011, the estimate fell slightly to 63.3% from 63.4% the previous month. Australia's trend participation rate has remained relatively steady over recent months and remained unchanged in February 2011 at 65.8%.

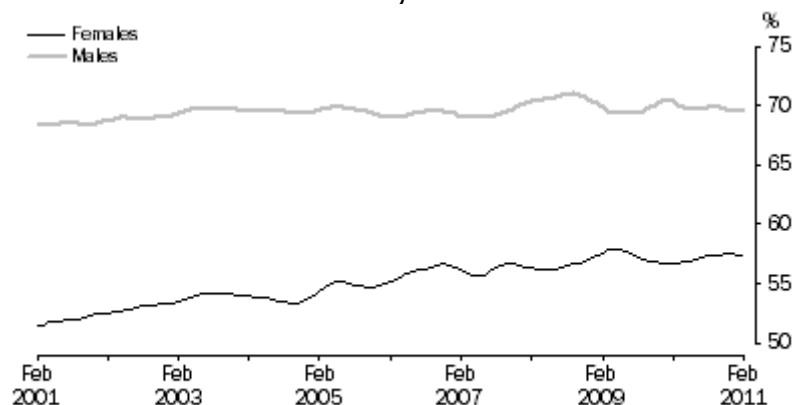
PARTICIPATION RATE, Trend



Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

From a peak of 70.3% in December 2009 and early 2010, the South Australian participation rate for males has shown some fluctuation, but over recent months has fallen to be 69.4% in February 2011. Over the same period, the Australian participation rate for males has generally risen and was 72.8% in February 2011. Following a period of growth, the participation rate for South Australian females has remained relatively unchanged over the last 6 months, with the February 2011 estimate at 57.5%. The Australian female participation rate fell slightly from the previous month to be 59.0% in February 2011.

PARTICIPATION RATE, Trend - South Australia



Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

*DATA NOTES

Please refer to the article Impact of the floods on the Labour Force Survey in Labour Force, Australia, Jan 2011 (cat. no. 6202.0).

Incomes



INCOMES

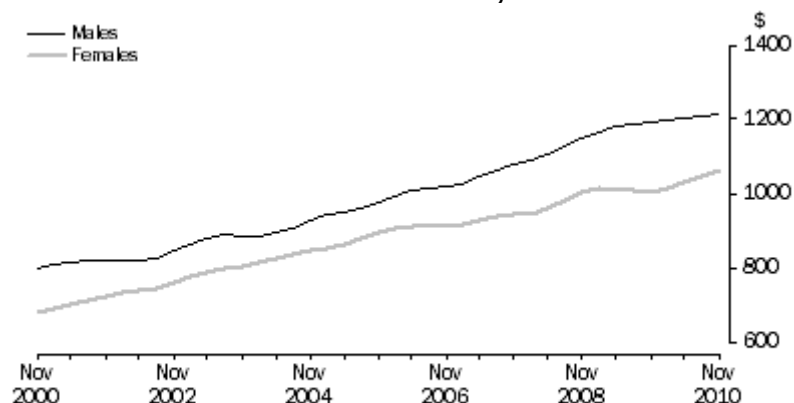
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings for full-time adult persons in South Australia increased by 2.9% to \$1,158.20 in the 12 months to November 2010. Nationally, the trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings increased 3.9% (up to \$1,272.50).

In the 12 months to November 2010, average weekly full-time earnings in South Australia for males increased by 1.6% to \$1,213.70. Whilst the rate of growth in South Australian male earnings has slowed considerably, it has remained positive. In comparison, the series for female earnings has shown more variability in recent times, increasing 5.3% in the 12 months to November 2010 to \$1,059.70. On average, South Australian females working full-time earn 12.7% less than their male counterparts.

Nationally, male average weekly full-time earnings increased 3.6% to \$1,356.90 and female earnings rose 4.7% to \$1,130.20 in the year to November 2010.

FULL-TIME ORDINARY EARNINGS, South Australia: Trend



Source: Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0)

For information on the wage price index, please refer to the '[Price Indexes](#)' topic.

***DATA NOTES**

Please refer to source publications for impact of floods on data and collections.

State Accounts



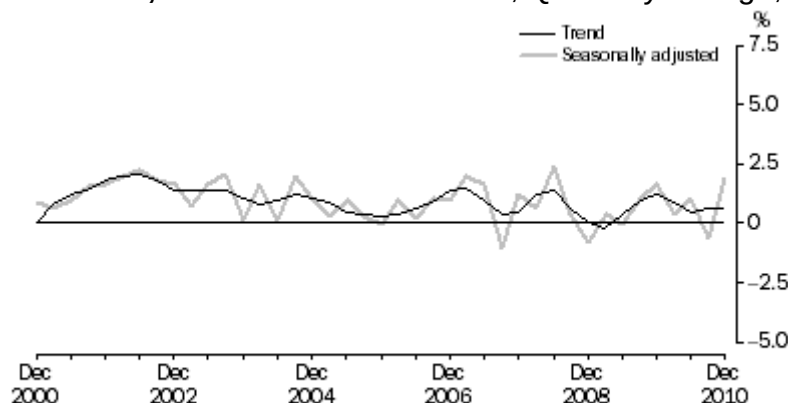
STATE ACCOUNTS

STATE ACCOUNTS

South Australia's December quarter 2010 State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$21,927m; an increase of 0.6% from the September quarter 2010 and 2.7% over the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Australia's Domestic Final Demand grew 0.5% to \$327,225m in the December quarter 2010.

All states and territories recorded increases for the December quarter 2010. The Australian Capital Territory reported the strongest growth for the period (up 1.5%), while Western Australia recorded the weakest (up 0.1%).

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures, Quarterly change, South Australia

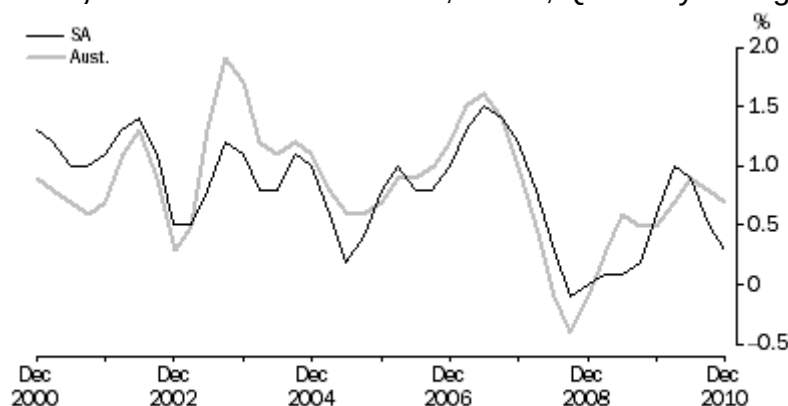


Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

HOUSEHOLD FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE (HFCE)

In chain volume (trend) terms, South Australia's December quarter 2010 HFCE was \$12,400m; an increase of 0.3% over the result recorded in the September quarter 2010 and representing 7.0% of the national total (\$176,312m). The value of HFCE for Australia increased by 0.7% between the September and December quarters 2010.

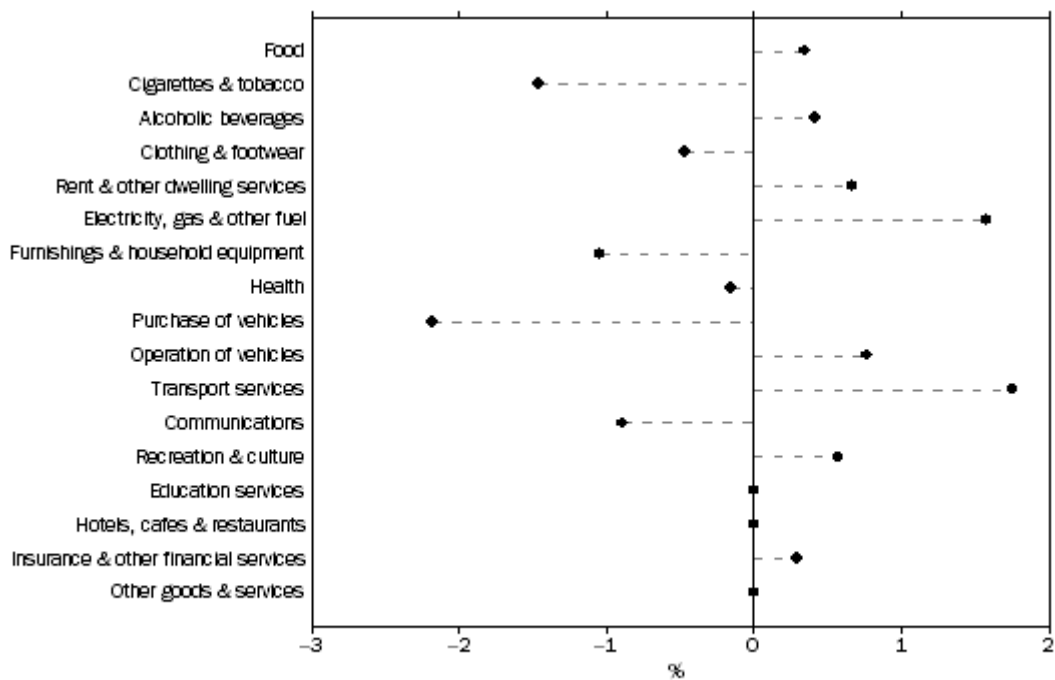
HFCE, Chain volume measures, Trend, Quarterly change



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

The main contributors to growth in HFCE in South Australia for the December quarter 2010 were Transport services (up 1.8% from the September quarter 2010), Electricity, gas and other fuel (up 1.6%) and Operation of vehicles (up 0.8%). The largest decreases in expenditure were for Purchase of vehicles (down 2.2%), Cigarettes and tobacco (down 1.5%) and Furnishings and household equipment (down 1.0%).

HFCE, Chain volume measures, Trend, Quarterly change, South Australia - December Quarter 2010



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

At the national level, expenditure increases were reported for most categories. The largest increases were for Transport services (up 2.4% from the September quarter 2010), Electricity, gas and other fuels (up 1.7%), and Recreation and culture (up 1.5%). The largest decreases in expenditure were for Purchase of vehicles (down 1.1%).

*DATA NOTES

Please refer to source publications for impact of floods on data and collections.

Consumption

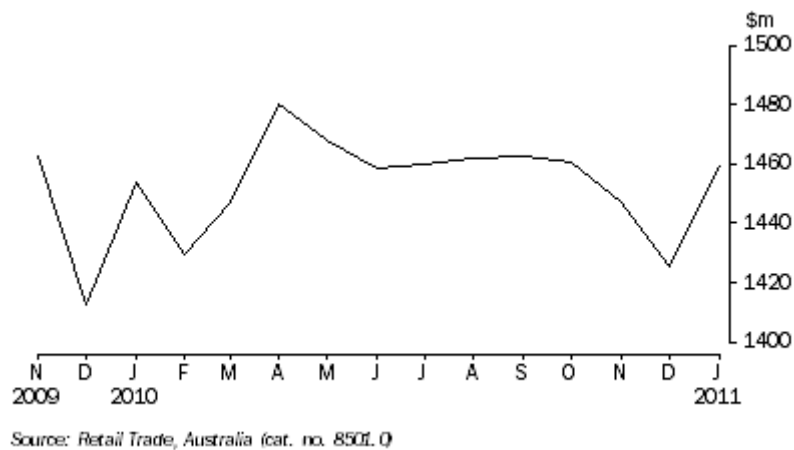


CONSUMPTION

RETAIL TRADE

The January 2011 seasonally adjusted estimate for South Australia's retail turnover rose for the first time in four months to \$1,460.1m; a rise of 2.4% from the previous month (\$1,425.4m), and 0.4% above the sales recorded in January 2010 (\$1,453.9m). Nationally, retail turnover rose to \$20,440.6m in January 2011; an increase of 0.4% over the previous month and 1.8% above the sales recorded in January 2010 (\$20,078.7m). South Australia's contribution to total retail turnover in Australia rose slightly to 7.1%.

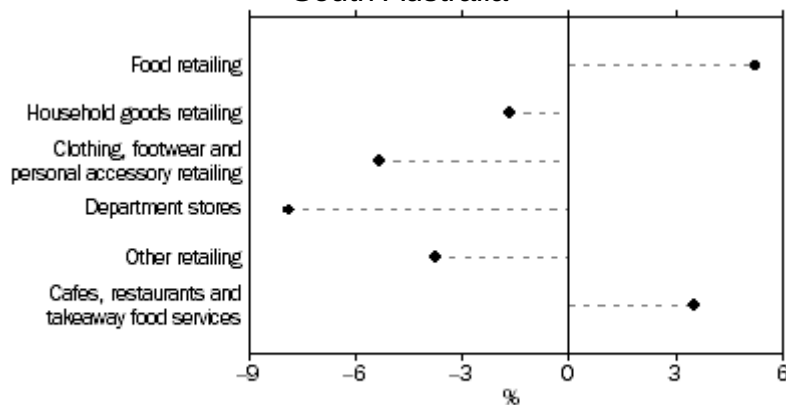
RETAIL TURNOVER, Seasonally adjusted, South Australia



Comparing January 2011 with January 2010, the only two South Australian industry groups with increases in retail turnover (in seasonally adjusted terms) were Food retailing, up 5.2% to \$605.1m and Cafe, restaurants and takeaway food services, up 3.5% to \$152.4m.

Department stores and Clothing, footwear and personal accessories recorded the largest industry group decreases in turnover over this period, falling by 7.9% and 5.3% respectively.

RETAIL TURNOVER, Seasonally adjusted, Change from January 2010 to January 2011, South Australia

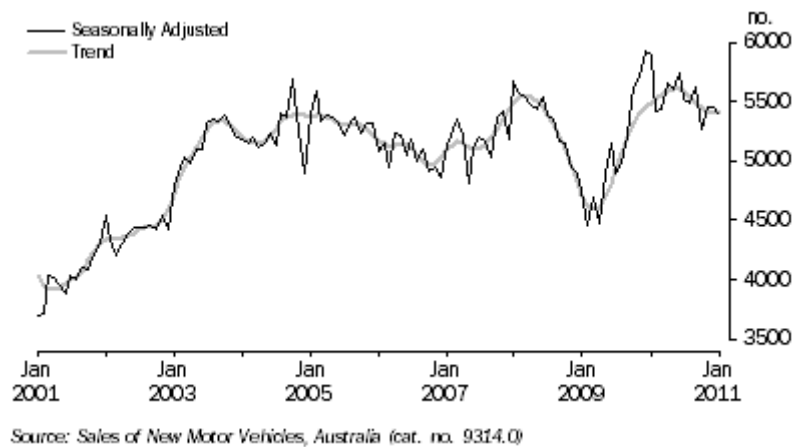


NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

In trend terms, sales of new passenger vehicles in South Australia rose to 3,205 in January 2011. The latest rise represents a slight increase (0.4%) from the December sales (3,192) but is 1.4% lower than sales in January 2010 (3,250). In contrast, total new vehicles sales fell 0.1% in January 2011 to 5,393.

In Australia, new passenger vehicle sales rose 0.8% to 49,454 in January 2011 from 49,075 in December. The January 2011 estimate is 1.7% above the new passenger vehicle sales for the same time the previous year (48,648). Total new vehicle sales remained unchanged at 85,252 in January 2011.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES, South Australia



*DATA NOTES

Please refer to source publications for impact of floods on data and collections.

Investment



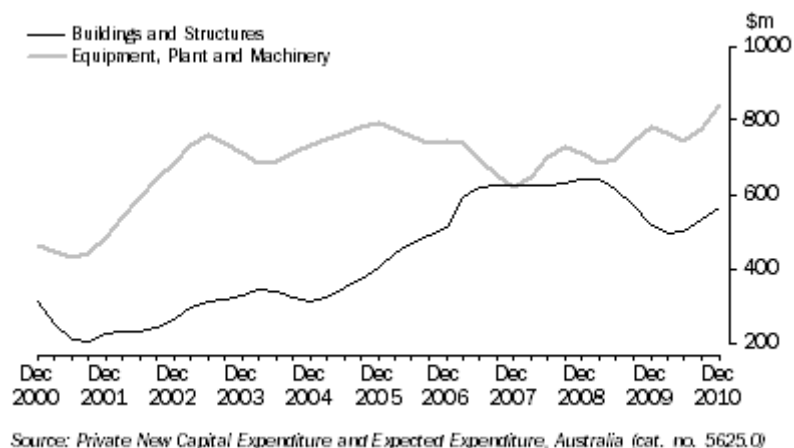
INVESTMENT

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the September and December quarters 2010, the South Australian chain volume (trend) estimate of private new capital expenditure rose by 7.6% to \$1,409m. Expenditure on Buildings and structures rose \$31m (5.7%) to \$566m, and expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery rose \$69m (8.9%) to \$844m.

Over the same period, private new capital expenditure for Australia rose \$997m (3.5%) to \$29,785m. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery rose 4.9%, and expenditure on Buildings and structures rose 1.4%.

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, South Australia - Chain volume measures - Trend



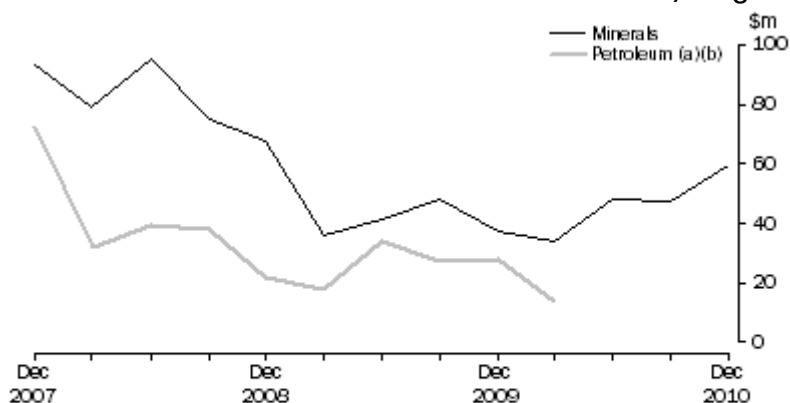
MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE

The value of South Australian mineral exploration expenditure (in original terms) was \$59.5m in the December quarter 2010; an increase of 25.6% over the previous quarter but 37.4% below the peak recorded in the June quarter 2008 (\$95.2m). Australian expenditure on mineral exploration was \$703.3m in the December quarter 2010; an increase of 5.1% from the September quarter 2010 estimate (\$669.4m).

Exploration expenditure on Copper (\$23.6m) and Uranium (\$17.5m) once again accounted for more than two thirds (69.1%) of all South Australian mineral exploration expenditure in the December quarter 2010. A further \$9.8m was spent on exploration for Iron ore.

Data relating to expenditure on petroleum exploration in South Australia (and Victoria) were not available for publication in the June or September quarters 2010, however in the December quarter 2010, expenditure was \$15.1m. This latest estimate was 46.4% below expenditure for December 2009. Nationally, expenditure on petroleum exploration decreased marginally by 0.1% from \$850.4m to \$849.6m between the September and December quarters 2010.

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, Original, South Australia



(a) Data relating to expenditure on petroleum exploration in South Australia were not available for publication in the June or September quarter 2010.
(b) December quarter 2010 expenditure \$15.1m.

Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia (cat. no. 8412.0)

*DATA NOTES

Please refer to source publications for impact of floods on data and collections.

Construction



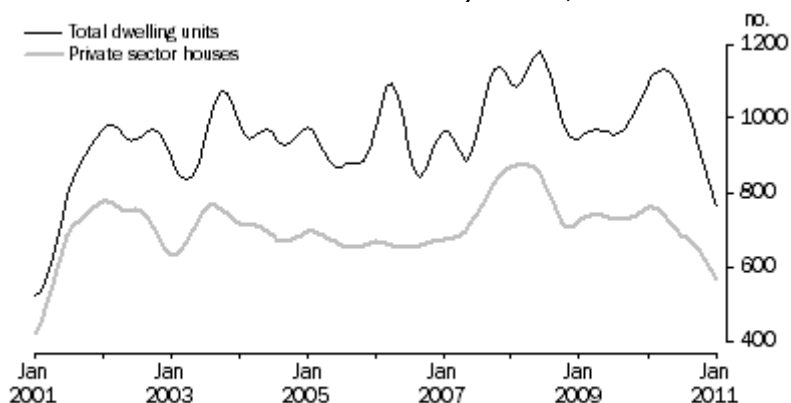
CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING APPROVALS

The number of dwelling units approved in South Australia (in trend terms) has fallen for the ninth consecutive month with 763 approvals recorded in January 2011. This represents a decrease of 6.5% over the December estimate (816), and 30.2% lower than at the same time in the previous year (1,093). Nationally, the number of dwelling unit approvals also fell (0.5%) to 13,141. The January 2011 estimate is 16.2% below the peak recorded nearly a year earlier (15,673 in February 2010).

The trend estimate for the number of private sector houses approved in South Australia fell (4.3%) to 569 in January 2011. Private sector house approvals as a proportion of total dwelling unit approvals was 69.6% in January 2010, while in January 2011 this proportion was 74.6%.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, Trend, South Australia



Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0)

In the year to January 2011, the total number of dwelling units approved in South Australia rose by 2.2%. Increases were recorded in three of the seven Statistical Divisions (SD) with the largest increase in the Murray Lands SD (up 58.9%). This follows a 14.8% decrease for this SD in the preceding twelve months to January 2010.

The largest decrease in dwelling units approved in the year to January 2011, occurred in the Northern SD (down 20.1%).

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, by Statistical Division, Original, South Australia

	Year ended January 2010		Year ended January 2011	
	Dwelling units no.	Change over previous year %	Dwelling units no.	Change over previous year %
Adelaide	8 469	-4.3	8 366	-1.2
Outer Adelaide	1 498	-13.6	1 670	11.5
Yorke and Lower North	463	-23.6	528	14.0
Murray Lands	433	-14.8	688	58.9
South East	412	-23.1	358	-13.1
Eyre	263	-16.2	257	-2.3
Northern	363	-24.4	290	-20.1
South Australia	11 901	-8.7	12 157	2.2

Source: Building Approvals, Australia - data available on request

[Map of South Australia's Statistical Divisions \(PDF 3.083MB\)](#)

*DATA NOTES

Please refer to source publications for impact of floods on data and collections.

The trend estimates should be interpreted with caution as the underlying behaviour of building approvals may be affected by initiatives within the Government stimulus package, which included the "Building the Education Revolution" (BER) program and the Social Housing Initiative as well as other developments associated with global economic conditions. From June 2009 to February 2010 BER impacts were quantified and removed from the trend estimates because of its short term nature. From March 2010 these impacts are no longer removed from the trend estimates as their effect has significantly declined. For more details on trend estimates, please see paragraphs 20 to 23 of the explanatory notes.

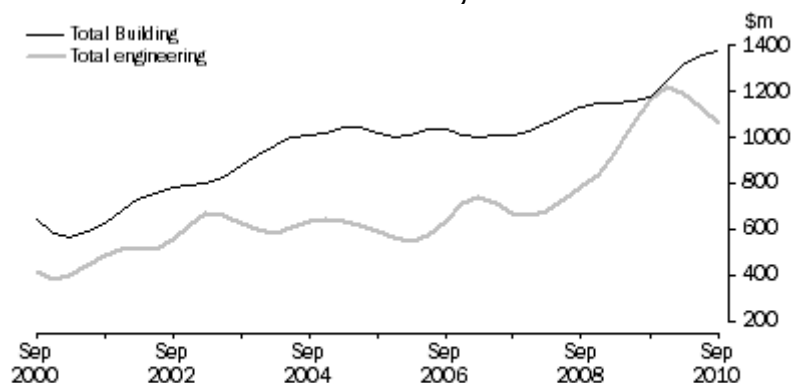
CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE

In the September quarter 2010, the total value of building work done (in trend terms)* in South Australia rose to \$1,379.8m, an increase of 1.5% over the June quarter 2010.

Between the December quarters 2007 and 2009, the trend* estimate for the value of engineering work done rose sharply (\$660.8m to \$1,223.1m). Since this time, the value of engineering work has fallen to \$1,065.3m in the September quarter 2010.

The upsurge in engineering construction between the December quarters 2007 and 2009 was the focus of the feature article presented in the April 2010 issue of SA Stats.

VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE*, Chain volume measures - SA: Trend



Source: Building Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8752.0)
Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8762.0)

*INTRODUCTION OF NEW BASE YEAR

A new base year, 2008-09, has been introduced into the chain volume estimates which has resulted in revisions to growth rates in subsequent periods. In addition, the chain volume estimates have been re-referenced to 2008-09, thereby preserving additivity in the quarters after the reference year. Re-referencing affects the levels of, but not the movements in, chain volume estimates.

Price Indexes



PRICE INDEXES

CONTENTS

[Consumer price index](#)

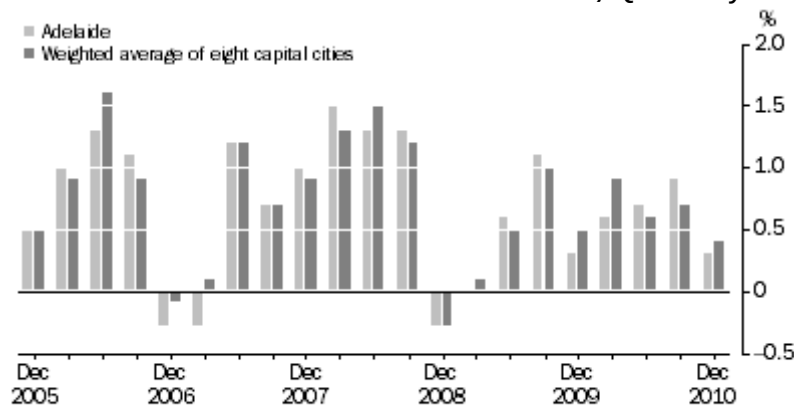
[Wage price index](#)

[House price index](#)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Adelaide rose 0.3% during the December quarter 2010, while the weighted average of the eight capital cities increased by 0.4% in the same period. Adelaide's CPI increased by 2.5% in the year ending December quarter 2010, compared with a 2.7% rise in the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

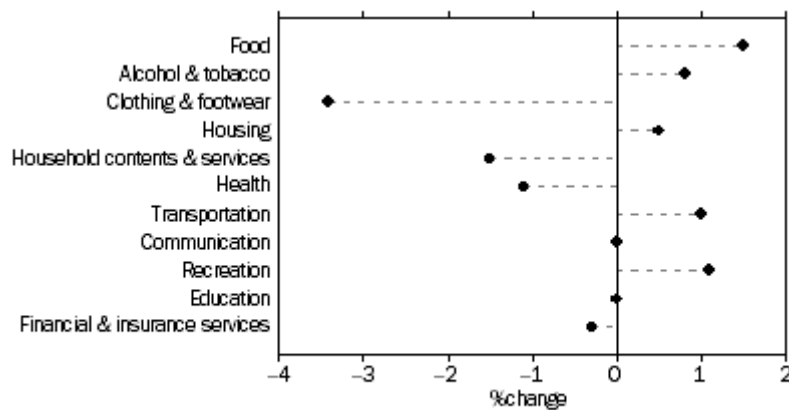
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL GROUPS, Quarterly change



Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

Adelaide's largest percentage increases in prices from the previous quarter were for Food (1.5%) and Recreation (1.1%). The largest decreases in prices from the previous quarter were for Clothing and footwear (3.4%) and Household contents and services (1.5%).

CPI GROUPS, Quarterly change, Adelaide - December Quarter 2010

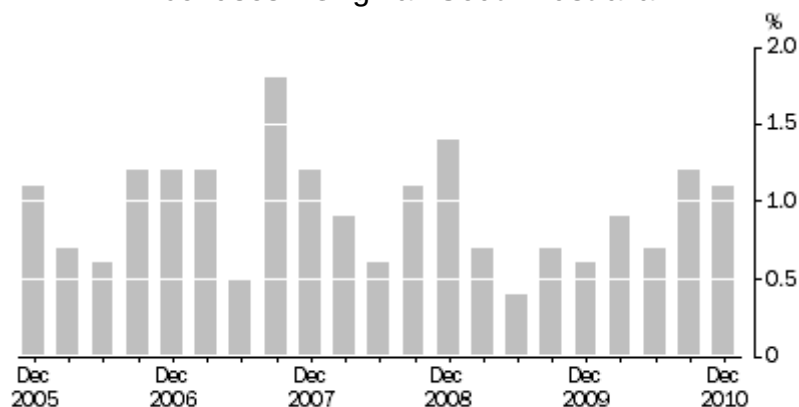


Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

WAGE PRICE INDEX

The wage price index for all employee jobs in South Australia increased by 1.1% (in original terms) between the September and December quarters 2010. This was higher than the national increase of 0.9% over the same period. Of all the states, South Australia experienced the largest increase (1.1%) and New South Wales the smallest (0.7%).

WAGE PRICE INDEX QUARTERLY CHANGES, Total Hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses - Original: South Australia

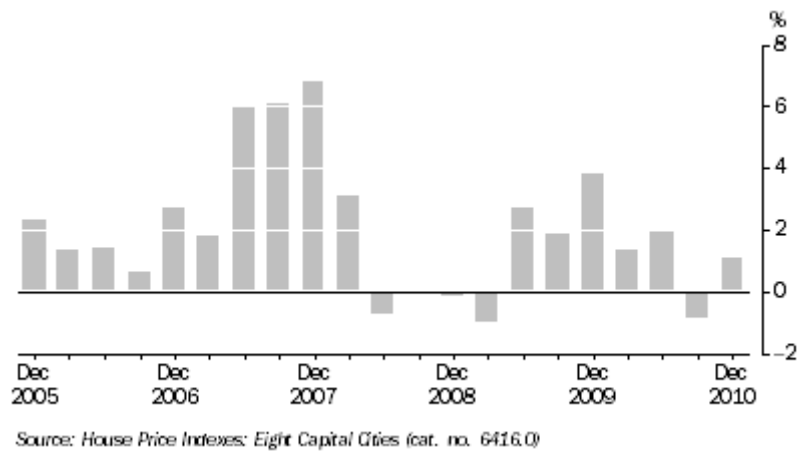


Source: Labour Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6345.0)

HOUSE PRICE INDEX

Preliminary estimates show the price index for established houses for Adelaide (in original terms) has risen by 1.1% in the December quarter 2010, following a fall of 0.9% in the previous quarter. Price rises were recorded in all other capital cities with the exception of Perth. Canberra (1.9%), Sydney (1.6%) and Melbourne (1.3%) recorded the largest price index increases. A fall of 3.2% in Perth moderated all other price index rises, resulting in an increase in the price index for established houses for the weighted average of the eight capital cities of 0.7% in the December quarter 2010.

ESTABLISHED HOUSE PRICES, Quarterly change, Adelaide



In the 12 months to the December quarter 2010, preliminary estimates show the price index for established houses for Adelaide rose 3.5%, while the weighted average of the eight capital cities increased 5.8%. Melbourne (10.8%), Sydney (7.4%) and Canberra (6.5%) recorded the largest increases whilst Perth recorded the only decrease (2.0%) of all the capital cities.

*DATA NOTES

Please refer to source publications for impact of floods on data and collections.

Housing Finance

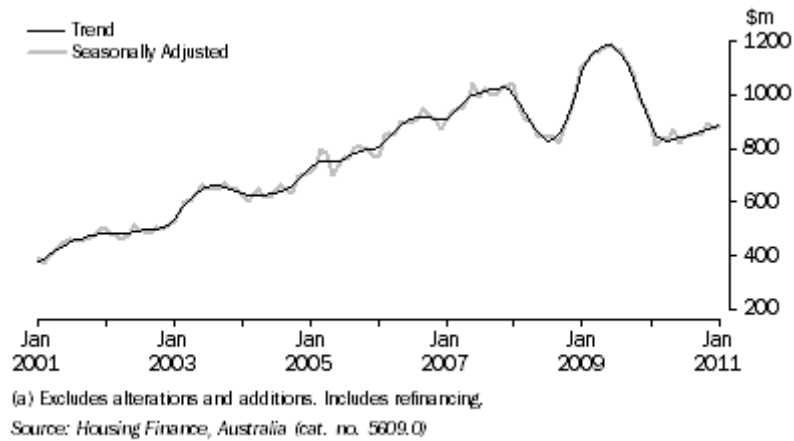


HOUSING FINANCE

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments (owner occupation) in South Australia rose in January 2011 to \$886m. The January estimate is 0.5% higher than the previous month, but is 25.2% lower than the peak value of housing finance commitments recorded in June 2009 (\$1,184m). Nationally, the value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation was \$14,371m in January 2011; 0.4% higher than December 2010, but 16.1% lower than the peak recorded in June 2009 (\$17,124m).

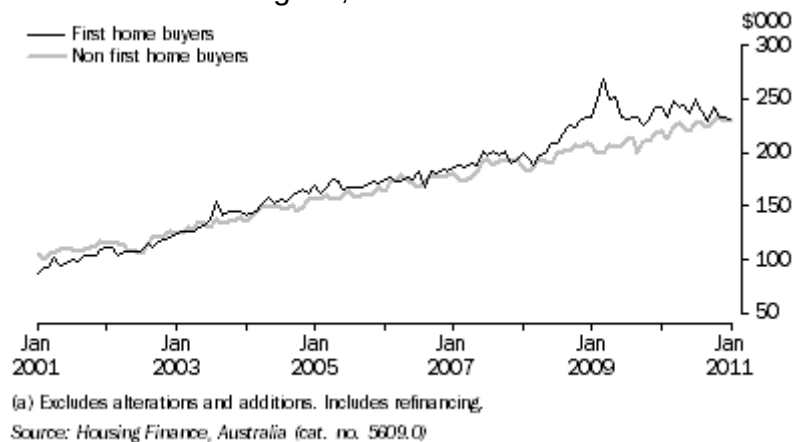
HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION) (a), South Australia



In January 2011, the average home loan size for owner occupied dwellings in South Australia was \$229,700, an increase of 0.2% over the previous month, and 19.0% lower than the average loan size for Australia (\$283,700).

In January 2011, the average loan commitment for first home buyers in South Australia fell to \$229,500; a decrease of 1.4% over the December estimate and 14.5% below the peak recorded in March 2009 (\$268,300). The average loan size for non-first home buyers in January 2011 rose to \$229,800; an increase of 0.4%. This latest increase raises it above the average loan commitment for first home buyers for the first time since March 2008.

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION) (a), Average loan size, Original, South Australia



For information on the house price index, please refer to the '[Price Indexes](#)' topic.

*DATA NOTES

Please refer to source publications for impact of floods on data and collections.

International Merchandise Trade



INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

On a recorded trade basis, the value of South Australia's exports in January 2011 was \$769m; a decrease of 21.8% from December 2010 (\$983m) but 54.6% higher than the value recorded in January 2010 (\$497m).

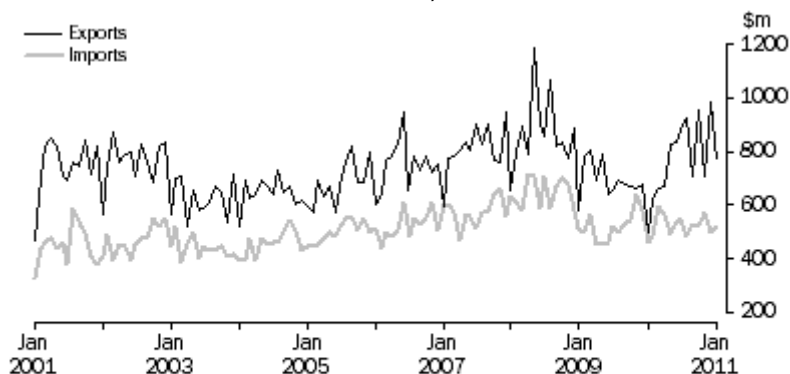
In January 2011, Wheat remained South Australia's number one contributor to the states exports, increasing by \$31m and accounting for 20.9%. Copper and Wine were the next largest export contributors with 13.9% and 8.0% respectively.

The value of Australian merchandise exports for January 2011 fell 18.6% to \$17,321m. The January estimate is 18.2% higher than at the same time the previous year (\$14,656m).

The value of South Australian merchandise imports rose to \$521m in January 2011. This estimate represents an increase of 4.9% from December 2010 (\$496m) and is 12.0% higher than the value recorded in January 2010 (\$465m).

The value of Australian merchandise imports for January 2011 fell to \$15,778m; a decrease of 13.1% from the previous month but 2.7% higher than the value recorded in January of the previous year (\$15,361m).

VALUE OF INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS (a), on a recorded trade basis, South Australia



(a) Exports where the final stage of production or manufacture occurs in South Australia.

Source: *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia* (cat. no. 5368.0)

*DATA NOTES

Please refer to source publications for impact of floods on data and collections.

Water



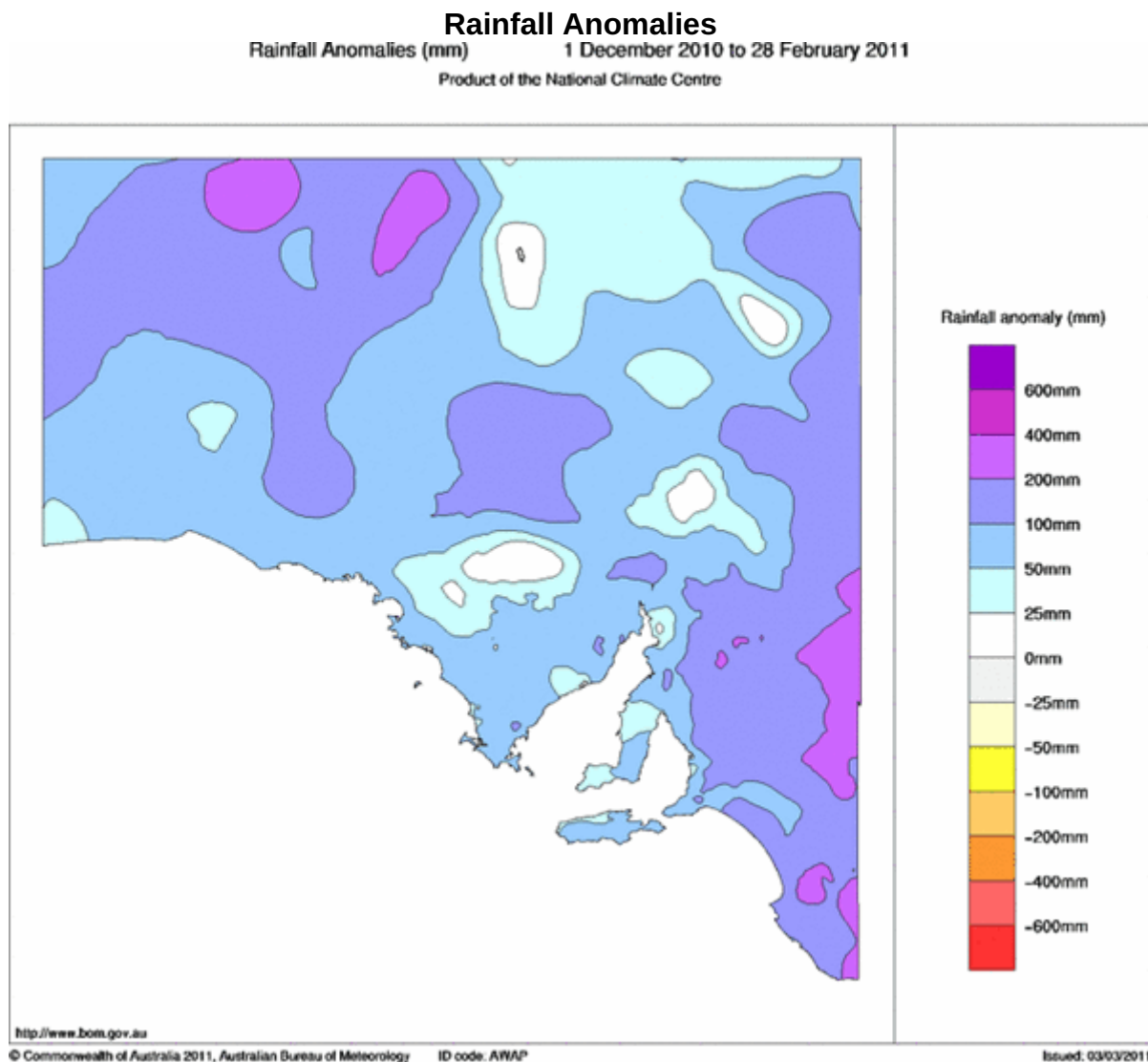
WATER

RAINFALL

According to the Bureau of Meteorology's Seasonal Climate Summary for South Australia, Summer 2010-11 was the third wettest on record.

The well above average rainfall was predominantly a result of one of the strongest La Nina events on record. Forty seven locations, mainly in the east of the state, experienced their wettest summer on record and sixty seven locations had their highest ever daily rainfall in the summer period.

The highest total rainfall for the state was recorded in Ernabella (Pukatja), located in South Australia's pastoral district, with 341.8mm.

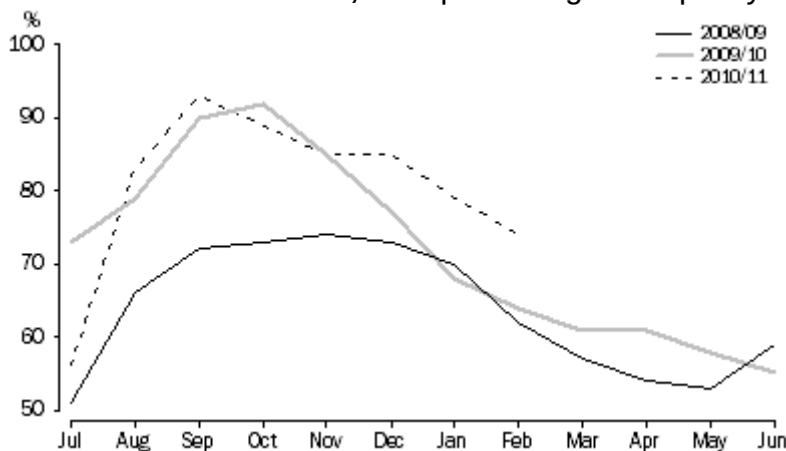


Source: 3-monthly rainfall anomalies for South Australia, Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

RESERVOIR LEVELS

Despite well above average February 2011 rainfall in the greater Adelaide area, reservoir storage levels fell to 74% of capacity by the end of the month. In comparison to preceding years, this level is considerably higher than at the same time in 2010 (64%), and 2009 (62%).

TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE, As a percentage of capacity - Adelaide



Source: [SA Water daily reservoir levels](#)

About this Release

SA Stats provides an overview of the South Australian population and economy. The publication is updated on a monthly basis, with most releases also featuring an article that provides a South Australian focus on economic, social and environmental issues.

Explanatory Notes are not included in SA Stats in the form found in other Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publications. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications.

Patterns in South Australian Retail Turnover (Feature Article)

FEATURE ARTICLE 1: PATTERNS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RETAIL TURNOVER

INTRODUCTION

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) produces three different perspectives of data - the original (unadjusted) series, the seasonally adjusted series and the trend series. This feature article demonstrates the different views of the economy that each series can provide, using retail trade data as the medium. For more background, please refer to Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0) and the references listed under Further Reading.

RECENT OVERVIEW

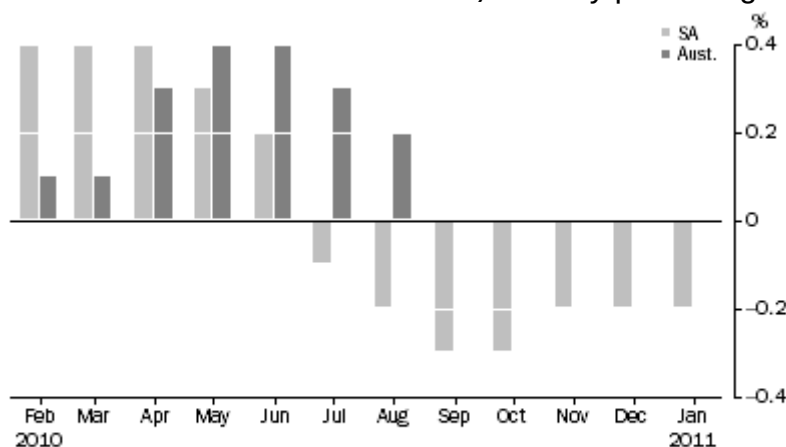
The ABS publication Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0) provides monthly estimates of turnover for retail and selected service establishments for Australia and the states and territories. This section looks at monthly percentage changes in trend series retail turnover, for the 12 months to January 2011.

In the three months to April 2010, South Australia's retail trade turnover growth (monthly) exceeded corresponding national levels, but after that, South Australia fell behind national monthly growth.

Notably, after April 2010, there has been a decline in growth of the monthly trend series for South Australia, to the extent that the state's retail trade turnover has shown negative growth - since July 2010.

Nationally, trend series monthly turnover grew from 0.1% in February 2010 to a peak of 0.4% in May and June 2010, after which it fell away to be flat at 0.0% from September 2010 to January 2011. These movements can be tracked in the graph below.

RETAIL TURNOVER - TREND SERIES, Monthly percentage change



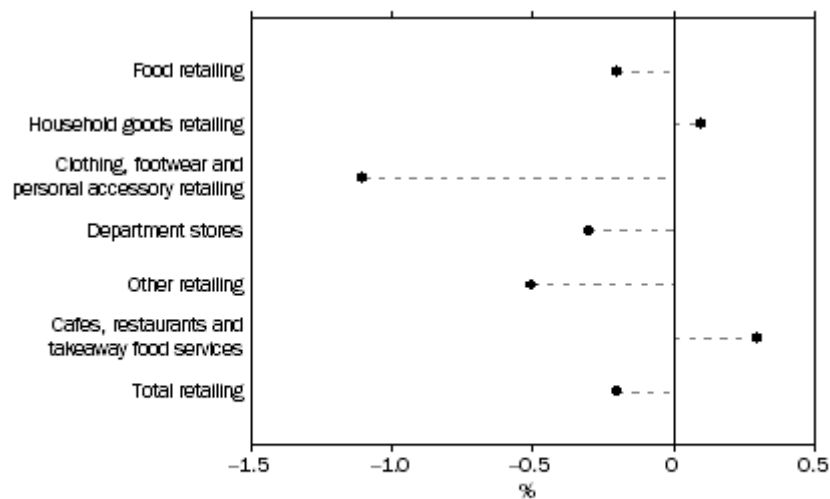
Note: Zero growth recorded for Australia since September.

Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

From another perspective, the compound average monthly growth rate for South Australian retail trade turnover for this twelve month period was -0.02%, while the corresponding growth for Australia was +0.17%.

For the period of negative monthly growth for South Australia's retail turnover (July 2010 to January 2011), the main retail groups contributing to this decline were Clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing, Department stores, Food retailing and Other retailing. In addition, Department stores showed negative monthly growth for each of the twelve months of this study, while Other retailing had negative or zero growth for eleven of the twelve months.

RETAIL INDUSTRIES - AVERAGE MONTHLY GROWTH, South Australia, July 2010 to January 2011



Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

TIME SERIES ANALYSIS - INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

In the previous section the performance of South Australia's retail sector was examined for recent months using trend series data exclusively. The results indicated that retail turnover in the state had undergone a decline during the twelve months of the study. A number of questions remain; for example, why did the downturn happen? Is this an unusual event? The 'why' remains to be seen, but the uniqueness of the event can be tested by looking at historical data over a longer time span, that is, by looking at a long time-series.

As defined in the ABS information paper *An Introductory Course on Time Series Analysis* (cat. no. 1346.0.55.001), a time series is a collection of observations of well defined data items observed through time. In the data analysis that follows a ten year time series will be used.

The actual, or real world, representation of retail turnover comprises the original series of data; that is, the original series tells the reader what actually happened. It provides information about current levels of activity but it does not clarify whether changes from one period to the next are due to price changes, seasonal variations, or extra-ordinary events. More complete and meaningful impressions are obtained when the original data are subjected to time series analysis. Time series analysis removes from these original data seasonal influences and irregular events.

Movements in an original series of estimates can be attributed to a combination of three factors:

- Trend (T) - the underlying level and direction of the time series (driven by underlying changes in activity, e.g. inflation, population growth, economic growth).
- Seasonal (S) - systematic calendar related influences (e.g. seasons, the number of trading days in a month, public holidays, and holiday seasons and administrative practices such as are associated with tax-time, end-of-financial year).
- Residual/Irregular (I) - irregular and extra-ordinary events (e.g. natural disasters, commodity shortages, sampling and non-sampling errors in the collection of data).

The trend, original and seasonally adjusted estimates contain complementary information and a complete perspective will be achieved by studying all three series. For measuring the fundamental behaviour of a series, for clarifying short-term movements, and for comparing

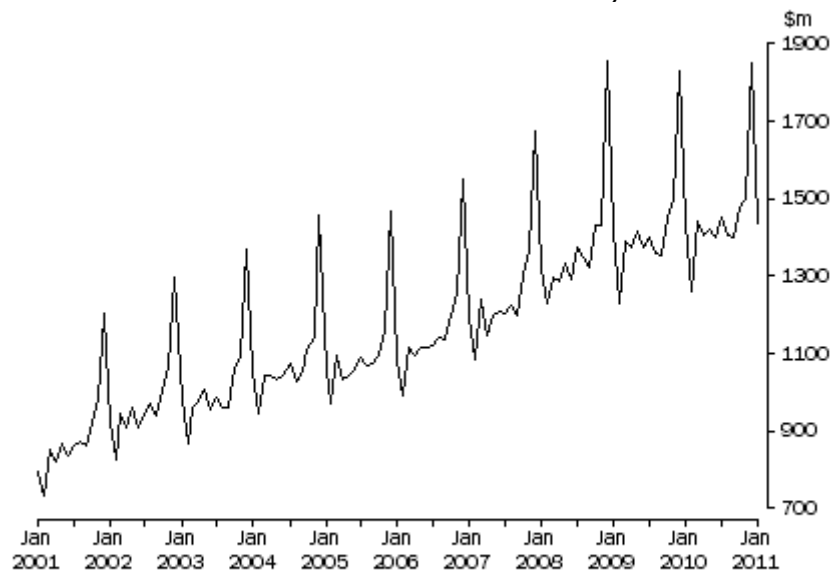
data at different points in time (e.g. month to month, or year apart), the trend series will generally be the best analytical tool.

ANALYSING SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RETAIL TURNOVER OVER TIME

RETAIL TURNOVER - ORIGINAL SERIES

When examined for the ten year period January 2001 to January 2011, the original series of monthly South Australian retail turnover data demonstrates regular fluctuations with peaks of turnover in December falling away to low points in February each year. This pattern appears to be the main repeating sequence, that is, it represents a regular, or systematic calendar related variation - a seasonal variation. Not surprisingly, the primary seasonal influence is the Christmas season, while the February results are affected by the fewer number of trading days in that short month. A smaller, somewhat regular peak appears post-February, that is, in the March-April period, suggesting a contribution from the increased number of trading days in these two months and some influence of the movable holiday period of Easter.

RETAIL TURNOVER - ORIGINAL SERIES, South Australia



Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no 8501.0)

For the period under study, there was an average increase of 24.7% in the retail turnovers between November and December and an average 24.0% decline in the retail turnovers between December and January.

Of particular note is the November to December 2008 increase of 29.4%, which was nearly one fifth greater than the ten year average of 24.7%. The December 2008 estimate amounted to a \$421.1 million increase in turnover, easily the largest seen for the ten years of the series. The increased levels of spending estimated may have resulted from the Australian Government's stimulus packages but could also reflect other irregular impacts like changes in interest rates and other influences associated with global economic conditions. The Retail Trade series does not measure how the stimulus packages were used - they may have been spent on retail activities (possibly bringing forward some expenditure or creating additional expenditure), non-retail activities, used to reduce debt or contributed to savings.

RETAIL TURNOVER - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES

When the seasonally adjusted series is generated by distributing the seasonal patterns of the original data across the whole year, considerable modification of the original series occurs. There is still some residual/irregular activity present, but this activity appears quite minor and indications are that seasonality is the major factor influencing monthly retail turnover in South Australia. In other words, seasonality is much stronger than volatility.

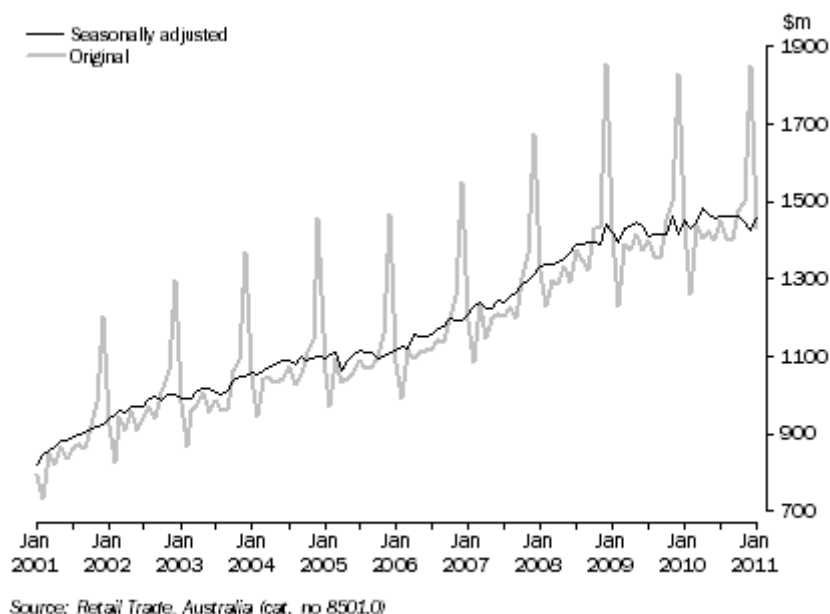
The process of seasonal adjustment aims to smooth out the effects of seasonal variations arising from, say, Christmas. This adjustment to the original data series results in South Australia's peak retail turnovers for December and the troughs between December and January being ironed out.

For example, in seasonally adjusted terms, the ten year average for the change in retail turnover between November and December was +0.2% - much lower than the corresponding increase of 24.7% in the original series. Similarly, the ten year average change for the December to January period was an 0.8% increase in seasonally adjusted series, compared with an average 24.0% decrease in original series terms.

However, even after removing the seasonal effects, the retail turnovers for December 2008 and January 2009 still show a peak and a trough respectively, where changes in turnover from the previous month are a 4.0% increase to December 2008 (average is 0.2%) and a 1.3% decrease to January 2009 (average is 0.8% increase). The November to December 2008 increase in turnover (\$55 million) was by far the largest for the time series.

Thus, it appears that something other than seasonality was responsible for recent (average) changes seen with the original series; for example, the Australian Government's stimulus payments to households may have had some affect on spending/turnover.

RETAIL TURNOVER - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND ORIGINAL SERIES, South Australia

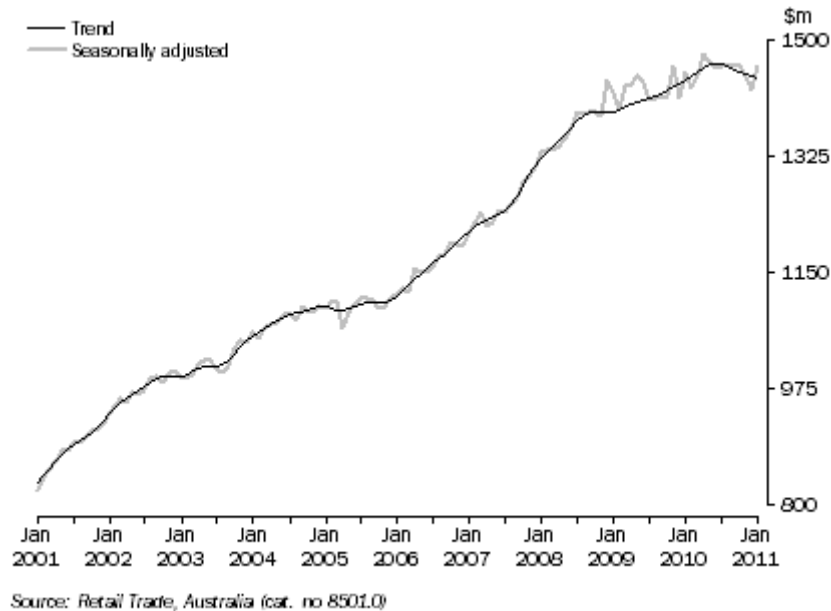


RETAIL TURNOVER - TREND SERIES

It is apparent from inspection of the original and seasonally adjusted series that both these

measures of monthly retail turnover are tending to increase over time, that is, there appears to be an upward trend in the data. To arrive at the underlying behaviour of the original series, and to isolate the trend line, further smoothing operations are carried out on the seasonally adjusted series to remove residual/irregular influences. The graph below depicts the seasonally adjusted series and the derived trend series, where "bumps" in the seasonally adjusted lines can be seen to have been smoothed out in the trend lines.

RETAIL TURNOVER - TREND AND SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES, South Australia



After adjusting the original series of retail turnover data for seasonal effects, and for irregular factors, the underlying trend in retail turnover across time is discovered. In this format it is revealed that retail turnover in South Australia increased for most of the series. Then between December 2008 and June 2010 the underlying trend in retail turnover flattened and began to decline from July 2010.

The effects of unexpected, extraordinary events have been smoothed out in the trend series.

SUMMARY

In recent times, the main findings in trend series retail turnover are as follows:

- In the three months to April 2010, South Australia's retail trade turnover growth (monthly) exceeded corresponding national levels, but after that, South Australia fell behind national monthly growth.
- After April 2010, there has been a decline in growth of the monthly trend series for South Australia, to the extent that the state's retail trade turnover has shown negative growth - since July 2010.
- Nationally, trend series monthly turnover grew from 0.1% in February 2010 to a peak of 0.4% in May and June 2010, after which it fell away to be flat at 0.0% from September 2010 to January 2011.

While the ABS provides three different perspectives of data - the original (unadjusted) series, the seasonally adjusted series and the trend series - this article highlights the benefits of using the trend series to reveal the underlying direction of the data.

From a time series perspective, the trend series levels out the irregularities in the seasonally adjusted data. It reveals that (trend) retail trade turnover in South Australia increased for most of the reference period (January 2001 - January 2011) but began to decline from July 2010.

FURTHER READING

For a more comprehensive study of time series interpretation and analysis the reader is directed to the following information papers:

ABS 1998, Information Paper: Seasonal Influences on Retail Trade (cat. no. 8508.0)

ABS 2005, Information Paper: An Introductory Course on Time Series Analysis (cat. no. 1346.0.55.001)

To clarify the activity underlying the movements in the raw (original) data a smoothing mechanism is applied. Information about the methodologies applied in smoothing raw data may be found in the following publications:

ABS 2003, Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series - Monitoring Trends (cat. no. 1349.0)

ABS 2003, Time Series Analysis Frequently Asked Questions (cat. no. 1346.0.55.002)

REFERENCES

ABS 2006, Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (cat. no. 1292.0)

ABS 2011, Retail Trade, Australia, Jan 2011 (cat. no. 8501.0)

Emotional Well-being in South Australia (Feature Article)

FEATURE ARTICLE 2: EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

INTRODUCTION

There is a growing interest in emotional well-being as an important aspect of life in Australia. However, it is not easy to quantify or measure. Analyses of the relationship between self-reported aspects of well-being and various demographic, social and economic variables suggest that in many cases the relationship is not strong. What one person feels is important may not be important to someone else. The individual nature of emotional well-being contributes to the difficulty of measuring it. At the same time, studies over the years have found that many social characteristics are partially correlated with self-reported well-being (ABS 2009a).

This article focuses on the psychological and emotional aspects of well-being of South

Australians, as measured in the ABS system of social statistics. It explores three indicators as a proxy measure of well-being: levels of psychological distress; mental illness; and personal stressors. Interest in such aspects has increased in recent years, with a psychological well-being target included as part of South Australia's Strategic Plan. Unless otherwise stated, the data presented pertain to persons aged 18 years and over.

The article shows that:

- At around 13%, South Australians had similar levels of high or very high degrees of psychological distress compared to Australia.
- Persons aged 25-34 years of age experienced significantly higher levels of high or very high levels of psychological distress (16%) than persons aged 65 years and over (9%).
- Persons with a disability or condition that profoundly or severely limits their activity experience higher levels of psychological distress than the general South Australian population.
- South Australia has higher per capita spending on mental health-related medications under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme than any other state.

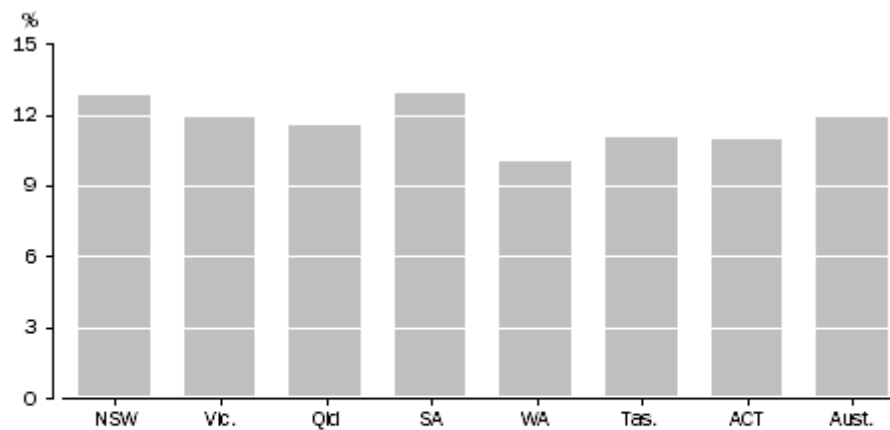
PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines mental health as "a state of well-being in which an individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and is able to make a contribution to his or her community. In this positive sense, mental health is the foundation for individual well-being and the effective functioning of a community." (WHO 2010). While psychological well-being is multifaceted, it can be examined by looking at levels of distress and mental illness.

Unhappiness is a symptom of many mental health conditions, so mental illness is likely to lead to lowered self-reported well-being (ABS 2009). In 2007-08, the National Health Survey (NHS) measured Australians' levels of psychological distress to complement information about diagnosed mental illness, using the Kessler 10 Scale (K10). It asked ten questions about negative emotional states in the four weeks prior to the interview. Because answers were self-reported, they don't imply a diagnosis or contact with health professionals, but are revealing because K10 scores are strongly associated with levels of recognised anxiety and depression (ABS 2001a). A very high psychological distress score may indicate a possible need for professional help.

The 2007-08 NHS found that around 13% of South Australians had a high or very high degree of psychological distress. State rates of high and very high psychological distress were similar, however Western Australia at 10% was significantly lower than New South Wales, South Australia and Australia (which recorded 12%) overall. The South Australian Government has "...acknowledged that mental health is an area requiring a specific focus" and set the target of "...equal or lower than the Australian average for psychological distress by 2014" in South Australia's Strategic Plan 2007 (Government of South Australia 2007). This target was first set in 2004 based on the 2001 ABS National Health Survey results which estimated South Australia's high/very high psychological distress rate at 14% (ABS 2001b).

HIGH/VERY HIGH LEVEL OF CURRENT PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS - 2007-08



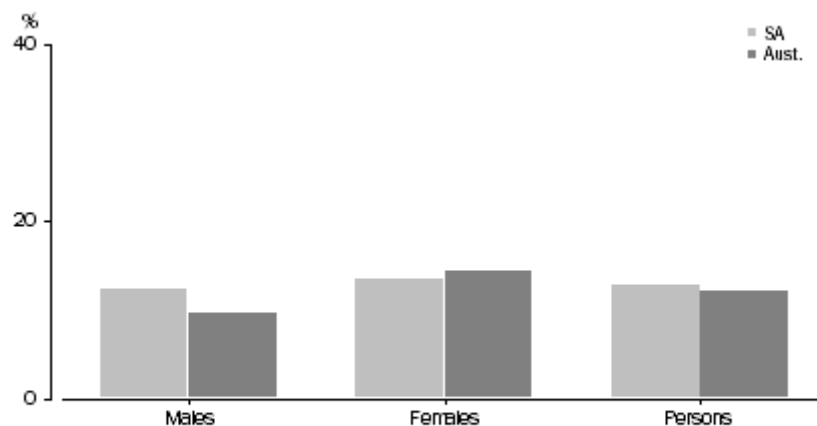
(a) Excludes 'very remote' areas. The NT records contribute to national estimates but are insufficient to support reliable estimates for the NT, and are as a result not shown.

Note: Persons aged 18 years and over.

Source: National Health Survey: Summary of Results: State Tables, 2007-2008 (cat. no. 4362.0)
National Health Survey: Summary of Results, 2007-2008 (cat. no. 4364.0)

Levels of psychological distress were similar between males and females. Around 14% of women and 12% of men in South Australia displayed a high/very high level of psychological distress, while 65% of women and 69% of men reported a low level of distress (ABS 2007-08).

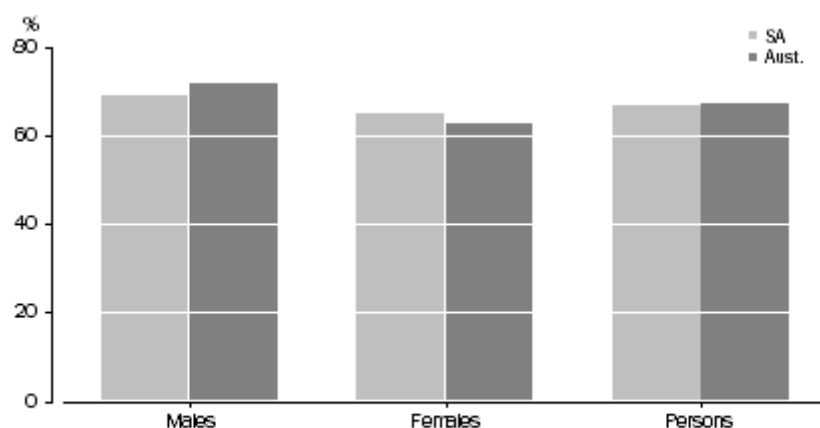
HIGH/VERY HIGH LEVEL OF CURRENT PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS - 2007-08



Note: Persons aged 18 years and over.

Source: National Health Survey: Summary of Results: State Tables, 2007-2008 (cat. no. 4362.0)
National Health Survey: Summary of Results, 2007-2008 (cat. no. 4364.0)

LOW LEVEL OF CURRENT PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS - 2007-08



Note: Persons aged 18 years and over.

Source: National Health Survey: Summary of Results; State Tables, 2007-2008 (cat. no. 4362.0)

National Health Survey: Summary of Results, 2007-2008 (cat. no. 4364.0)

The proportions of South Australians reporting high/very high psychological distress in different age groups were similar to the levels reported nationally. In South Australia, around 16% of 25-34 year olds had high/very high levels of psychological distress, which was significantly higher than the 9% reported by the 65 years and over age group (ABS 2007-08).

DISABILITY AND PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS

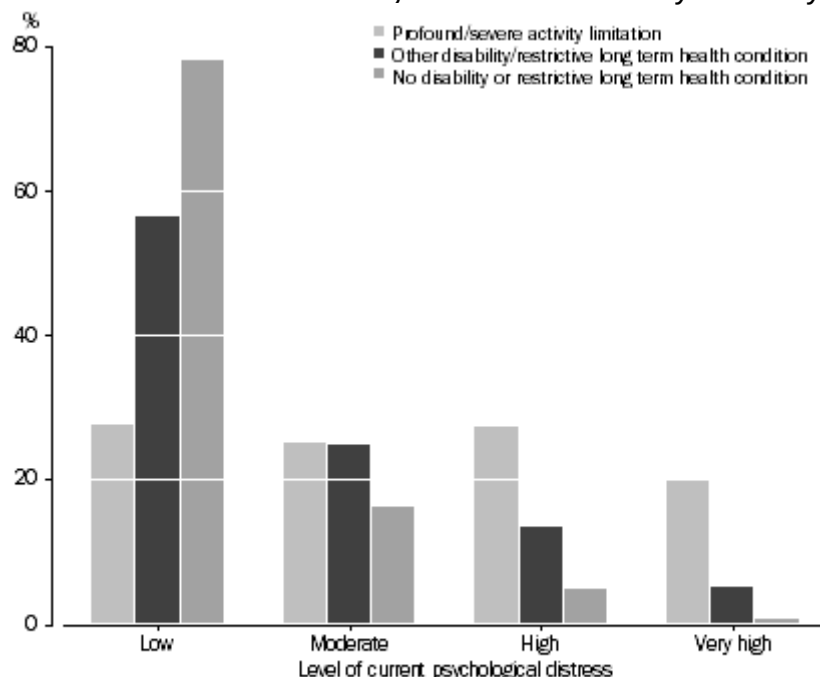
People with disabilities or long term health conditions can be subject to emotional and psychological experiences that impact on their lives in significant ways. A disability or restrictive long term health condition exists if a limitation, restriction, impairment, disease or disorder restricts every day activities, and has lasted, or is expected to last, for six months or more (ABS 2007-08).

In South Australia, approximately two out of every five persons aged 18 years and over (44% or 526,700) are living with disabilities or long term health conditions, and one in twenty (5% or 63,100) live with a disability or condition that profoundly or severely limits their activity. South Australians with these profound or severe limitations experience a higher proportion of psychological distress than the general South Australian population (47% report high or very high levels compared with 13%). This represents 29,800 persons in South Australia that are living with both a profound disability and a high degree of psychological distress (ABS 2007-08).

Nearly one in five (20%) South Australians living with a profound or severe disability also experienced a very high level of distress, indicating a possible need for professional help. This distress rate was twenty times higher than that recorded by Australians without any disability or long term health condition (1%), and four times higher than the estimate for South Australians with mild/moderate disabilities or restrictive health conditions (5%) (ABS 2007-08).

In 2007-08, 463,600 South Australians were living with mild/moderate disabilities or restrictive long term health conditions. One-fifth of this group (86,800) reported a high/very high level of psychological distress, while one in twenty (24,700) South Australians in this group reported a very high level of distress. Just over half (261,200) of South Australians living with mild/moderate disabilities or restrictive long term health conditions reported a low level of distress (ABS 2007-08).

CURRENT PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS, South Australia - by disability status - 2007-08



Note: Persons aged 18 years and over.

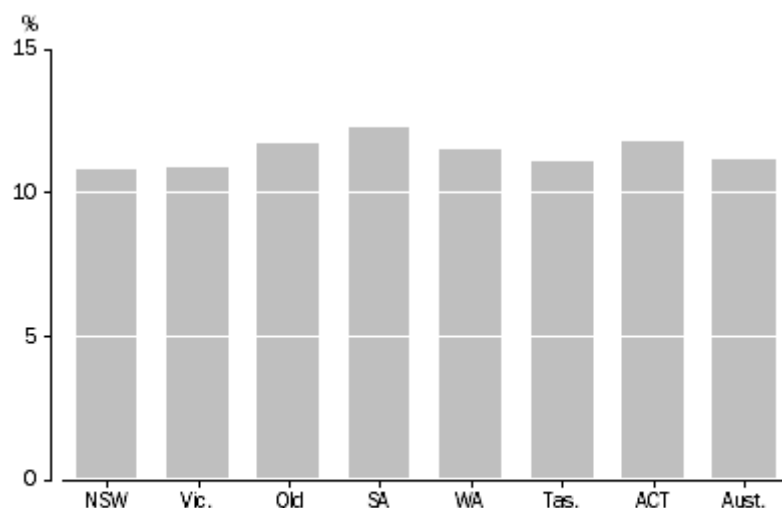
Source: National Health Survey: Summary of Results; State Tables, 2007-2008 (cat. no. 4362.0)

MENTAL ILLNESS

A mental disorder or illness is a clinically recognisable set of symptoms or behaviours which interfere with personal functioning and are associated with distress (ABS 2009b). The most common types of diagnosed mental disorders in Australia fall into three major groups: anxiety disorders, involving feelings of tension, distress or nervousness; affective disorders (including depression), which involve mood disturbance and tend to be recurrent and related to stressful events; and substance use disorders, which involve the harmful use and/or dependence on drugs and/or alcohol (ABS 2007).

In the 2007-08 NHS 190,800 (or 12%) of the total South Australian population reported they have a long term mental or behavioural problem identified by a health professional, that had lasted or was expected to last for six months or more. Around 68% of this group had a mood (affective) problem such as depression, 31% had an anxiety related problem such as phobias, and about half had other mental and behavioural problems or symptoms and signs involving cognition, perceptions, emotional state and behaviour (ABS 2007-08).

PERSONS WITH LONG TERM MENTAL OR BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEM(a) - 2007-08



(a) % of total population.

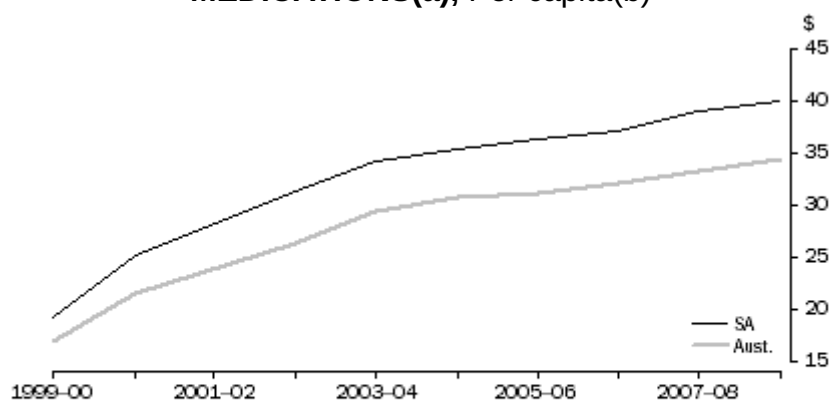
Source: National Health Survey: Summary of Results; State Tables, 2007-2008 (cat. no. 4362.0)

National Health Survey: Summary of Results, 2007-2008 (cat. no. 4364.0)

Mental illness can impact on a person's work and social participation, income and self-esteem, and have wider economic effects (ABS 2009b). The 2007-08 National Health Survey found that these conditions resulted in 16,300 South Australians of all ages taking days away from work, school or study in the previous 12 months. Around 72,600 South Australians used medications for a mental health condition. Of the South Australians with a mental health condition, around 20% took antidepressants, 6% took sleeping tablets, and 6% took medication for anxiety or nerves. A further 11% (or 20,900 people) took vitamins, minerals and herbal treatments to treat their mental health condition (ABS 2007-08).

Over the past decade, there has been consistently higher per capita spending (rate per total population) under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS/RPBS) on mental health-related medications in South Australia than any other state. In 2008-09, psychiatrists wrote 173,809 mental health related prescriptions, with a further 1,735,738 written by non-psychiatrists in South Australia alone. In 2008-09, the PBS/RPBS paid an average benefit of \$40.12 per capita on mental health in South Australia - much higher than the corresponding national average of \$34.33. Just over three-quarters (75%) of this expenditure in South Australia was on prescriptions issued by general practitioners (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2010).

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON MENTAL HEALTH-RELATED MEDICATIONS(a), Per capita(b)



(a) Under PBS/RPBS.

(b) Rate based on the Australian Estimated Resident Population as at 31 Dec 2008.

Note: Values for 2001-02 were absent from publication

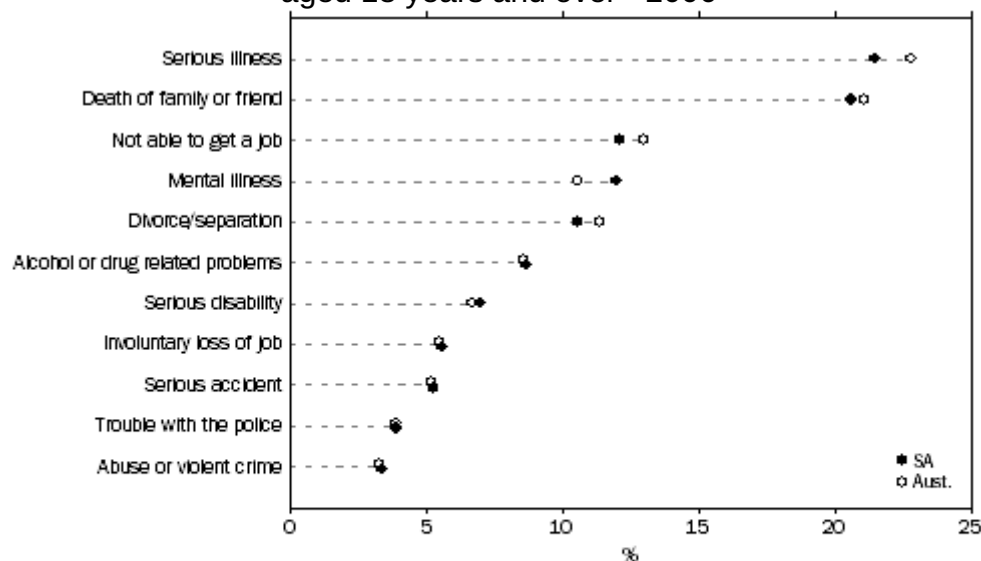
Source: AIHW Mental Health Services in Australia, 1999-00 to 2007-08

PERSONAL STRESSORS

Personal stressors are events or conditions that may adversely impact on a person's life or that of a whole family, such as serious illness, death of a family member, mental illness, divorce or separation. They may have an adverse effect on the capacity of individuals to live satisfying or productive lives, and can affect family functioning. In 2006, the General Social Survey (GSS) collected information on several types of stressors that individuals considered were a problem to themselves, their family and close friends in the previous 12 months (ABS 2006a).

More than half (58%) of South Australians aged 18 years and over experienced at least one potentially stressful situation or event during that time. The most common stressors were serious illness of self or someone close (22%), and death of a family member or close friend (21%). Mental illness as a stressor was experienced by 12% of South Australians, and 11% of Australians. Around 9% of South Australians reported they had alcohol or drug related problems as a stressor, and 7% had serious disability as a stressor, similar to national levels. Around 59% of women in South Australia reported at least one stressor, as did 58% of men (ABS 2006b).

PERSONAL STRESSORS EXPERIENCED IN LAST 12 MONTHS, Proportion of persons aged 18 years and over - 2006



Notes: Categories are not mutually exclusive.

Source: General Social Survey: Summary Results, Australia, 2006 (cat. no. 4159.0)
General Social Survey, South Australia, 2006 (cat. no. 4159.4.55.001)

CONCLUSION

Emotional well-being is a complex but important aspect of life in South Australia, and the South Australian Government has identified psychological well-being as one of its strategic plan targets. In the 2007-08 National Health Survey, more than one in eight South Australians (and Australians) aged 18 years and over reported having a high or very high degree of psychological distress, indicating a possible need for professional help. This rose to almost one in every two for South Australians living with a profound disability. Similarly, just under one in eight South Australians of all ages reported having a long term mental or behavioural problem lasting six months or more, as identified by a health professional.

Another source, the 2006 General Social Survey, revealed that nearly six out of ten adult South Australians were adversely impacted by at least one potentially stressful situation or event during the previous year.

While results for some indicators of well-being revealed similarities between South Australia and Australia, over the past decade, there has been consistently higher per capita spending on mental-health related medications in South Australia - under the Pharmaceutical and Repatriation Benefits Schemes - than in any other jurisdiction or nationally.

Emotional well-being remains an area of interest that will benefit from future research. The new Australian Health Survey 2011-13 - which is currently under way - will build on previous National Health Surveys and deepen our understanding of South Australian health and well-being, with the first results expected to be available in late 2012.

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